

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application (material to be inserted in amended claims is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~).

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A ball end mill comprising:

an approximately semi-circular cutting blade at the tip of a tool main body which rotates around a rotational axis; and a rake face and a flank, which are provided on either side of the cutting blade; wherein

the cutting blade **intersects a tip end surface of the tool main body at a position which** deviates from the rotational axis by a predetermined distance **along a radial direction of the tool main body.**

2. (Original) A ball end mill as described in Claim 1, the predetermined distance being between 0.5 % and 10 % of the outer diameter of the cutting blade.

3. (Previously Presented) A ball end mill as described in Claim 1, wherein blade faces are formed by the rake face and flank, which continue along either side of the cutting blade, the blade faces on each side having predetermined angles of inclination when viewed from a cross-section perpendicularly intersecting the cutting blade; and each of the predetermined angles is different as rake angles.

4. (Previously Presented) A ball end mill as described in Claim 2, wherein

4. (Previously Presented) A ball end mill as described in Claim 2, wherein blade faces are formed by the rake face and flank, which continue along either side of the cutting blade, the blade faces on each side having predetermined angles of inclination when viewed from a cross-section perpendicularly intersecting the cutting blade; and each of the predetermined angles is different as rake angles.
5. (Previously Presented) A ball end mill as described in Claim 1, the rake angle of the rake face being a negative angle.
6. (Original) The ball end mill as described in Claim 1, the cutting blade being slightly rounded by mirror polishing.
7. (Original) The ball end mill as described in Claim 1, the cutting blade being provided on a flat surface parallel to the rotational axis.